

Serial No.

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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frederic Joseph Klug et al.

: Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

: Examiner:

Filed:

: Paper No.: 1

For: METHOD FOR REMOVING VOLATILE  
COMPONENTS FROM A GEL-CAST  
CERAMIC ARTICLE

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Director of Patents and Trademarks  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING  
LABEL NUMBER

EL 807644965-US

Sir:

Please amend the Continuation-In-Part application, submitted herewith, of Application Serial No. 09/499,121, filed February 7, 2000, as follows.

If any additional fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required to Deposit Account 07-0868.

### In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 15-17, without prejudice.